

What is claim is:

1. Use of a pharmaceutical composition consisting of fluvastatin or pitavastatin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier for the preparation of a medicament for the prevention or treatment of metabolic syndrome.

2. Use of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 for the prevention or treatment of metabolic syndrome.

3. Use according to anyone of claims 1-2 wherein the metabolic syndrome is associated with resistance to insulin-mediated glucose uptake, glucose intolerance, hyperinsulemia, increased LDL-cholesterol, increased VLDL and triglycerides, decreased HDL-cholesterol, increased plasminogen activator inhibitor-1 (PAI-1) levels and hypertension.

4. Use according to anyone of claims 1-2 wherein the metabolic syndrome is characterized by three or more of the following criteria:

1. Abdominal obesity: waist circumference >102 cm in men and >88 cm in women
2. Hypertriglyceridemia: ≥ 150 mg/dl (1.695 mmol/l)
3. Low HDL cholesterol: <40 mg/dl (1.036 mmol/l) in men and <50 mg/dl (1.295 mmol/l) in women
4. High blood pressure: $\geq 130/85$ mmHg
5. High fasting glucose: ≥ 110 mg/dl (≥ 6.1 mmol/l).

5. Use according to anyone of claims 1-2 wherein the metabolic syndrome is characterized by diabetes, impaired glucose tolerance, impaired fasting glucose, or insulin resistance plus two or more of the following abnormalities:

- 1 High blood pressure: $\geq 160/90$ mmHg
- 2 Hyperlipidemia: triglyceride concentration ≥ 150 mg/dl (1.695 mmol/l) and/or HDL cholesterol <35 mg/dl (0.9 mmol/l) in men and <39 mg/dl (1.0 mmol/l) in women
- 3 Central obesity: waist-to-hip ratio of >0.90 in men or >0.85 in women and/or BMI >30 kg/m²

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- 4 Microalbuminuria: urinary albumin excretion rate ≥ 20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{min}$ or an albumin-to-creatinine ratio ≥ 20 mg/g .
6. Use according to anyone of claims 1-2 wherein the metabolic syndrome is characterized by three or more of the following criteria:
triglycerides >150 mg/dl , systolic blood pressure (BP) ≥ 130 mm Hg or diastolic BP ≥ 85 mm Hg or on antihypertensive treatment, high-density lipoprotein cholesterol <40 mg/dl , fasting blood sugar (FBS) >110 mg/dl , and a BMI >28.8 kg/m^2 .
7. A pharmaceutical composition for the prevention or treatment of metabolic syndrome consisting of fluvastatin or pitavastatin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
8. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7 wherein the metabolic syndrome is associated with resistance to insulin-mediated glucose uptake, glucose intolerance, hyperinsulemia, increased LDL-cholesterol, increased VLDL and triglycerides, decreased HDL-cholesterol, increased plasminogen activator inhibitor-1 (PAI-1) levels and hypertension.
9. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7 wherein the metabolic syndrome is characterized by three or more of the following criteria:
1. Abdominal obesity: waist circumference >102 cm in men and >88 cm in women
 2. Hypertriglyceridemia: ≥ 150 mg/dl (1.695 mmol/l)
 3. Low HDL cholesterol: <40 mg/dl (1.036 mmol/l) in men and <50 mg/dl (1.295 mmol/l) in women
 4. High blood pressure: $\geq 130/85$ mmHg
 5. High fasting glucose: ≥ 110 mg/dl (≥ 6.1 mmol/l).
10. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7 wherein the metabolic syndrome is characterized by diabetes, impaired glucose tolerance, impaired fasting glucose, or insulin resistance plus two or more of the following abnormalities:
- 1 High blood pressure: $\geq 160/90$ mmHg

- 2 Hyperlipidemia: triglyceride concentration ≥ 150 mg/dl (1.695 mmol/l) and/or HDL cholesterol < 35 mg/dl (0.9 mmol/l) in men and < 39 mg/dl (1.0 mmol/l) in women
- 3 Central obesity: waist-to-hip ratio of > 0.90 in men or > 0.85 in women and/or BMI > 30 kg/m²
- 4 Microalbuminuria: urinary albumin excretion rate ≥ 20 μ g/min or an albumin-to-creatinine ratio ≥ 20 mg/g.

11. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7 wherein the metabolic syndrome is characterized by three or more of the following criteria:

triglycerides > 150 mg/dl, systolic blood pressure (BP) ≥ 130 mm Hg or diastolic BP ≥ 85 mm Hg or on antihypertensive treatment, high-density lipoprotein cholesterol < 40 mg/dl, fasting blood sugar (FBS) > 110 mg/dl, and a BMI > 28.8 kg/m².

12. A method for the prevention or treatment of metabolic syndrome comprising in administering a pharmaceutical composition to the patient, wherein the pharmaceutical composition consists of fluvastatin or pitavastatin or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

13. Method according to claim 12 wherein the metabolic syndrome is associated with resistance to insulin-mediated glucose uptake, glucose intolerance, hyperinsulemia, increased LDL-cholesterol, increased VLDL and triglycerides, decreased HDL-cholesterol, increased plasminogen activator inhibitor-1 (PAI-1) levels and hypertension.

14. Method according to claim 12 wherein the metabolic syndrome is characterized by three or more of the following criteria:

1. Abdominal obesity: waist circumference > 102 cm in men and > 88 cm in women
2. Hypertriglyceridemia: ≥ 150 mg/dl (1.695 mmol/l)
3. Low HDL cholesterol: < 40 mg/dl (1.036 mmol/l) in men and < 50 mg/dl (1.295 mmol/l) in women
4. High blood pressure: $\geq 130/85$ mmHg
5. High fasting glucose: ≥ 110 mg/dl (≥ 6.1 mmol/l).

15. Method according to claim 12 wherein the metabolic syndrome is characterized by diabetes, impaired glucose tolerance, impaired fasting glucose, or insulin resistance plus two or more of the following abnormalities:

- 1 High blood pressure: $\geq 160/90$ mmHg
- 2 Hyperlipidemia: triglyceride concentration ≥ 150 mg/dl (1.695 mmol/l) and/or HDL cholesterol < 35 mg/dl (0.9 mmol/l) in men and < 39 mg/dl (1.0 mmol/l) in women
- 3 Central obesity: waist-to-hip ratio of > 0.90 in men or > 0.85 in women and/or BMI > 30 kg/m²
- 4 Microalbuminuria: urinary albumin excretion rate ≥ 20 μ g/min or an albumin-to-creatinine ratio ≥ 20 mg/g.

16. Method according to claim 12 wherein the metabolic syndrome is characterized by three or more of the following criteria:

triglycerides > 150 mg/dl, systolic blood pressure (BP) ≥ 130 mm Hg or diastolic BP ≥ 85 mm Hg or on antihypertensive treatment, high-density lipoprotein cholesterol < 40 mg/dl, fasting blood sugar (FBS) > 110 mg/dl, and a BMI > 28.8 k/m².